

Elizabeth “Betty” Dewire, 95

Elizabeth “Betty” Groden Dewire of Duxbury passed away July 19 in the loving presence of her family. She was 95. Betty was predeceased by her devoted husband of 60 years, F. Michael Dewire. Betty was the daughter of Michael Francis Groden and Flavia Domatilla Grady Groden.

Betty grew up in Cambridge, Mass., spending summers in Green Harbor with her nine brothers and sisters and many of her 34 nieces and nephews and their families. Betty graduated from Notre Dame Academy and attended Emmanuel College.

Betty joined the American Red Cross shortly after the Japanese surrender ended WW II and was very proud of her service to her country. In 1946, Betty departed on the US Army Hospital Ship Mercy and was stationed at the Johnson Army Air Base, Iruma, Japan, for two years. This experience began her life-long love of Japan, its people and culture, and in the ensuing decades welcomed many Japanese exchange students to her home.

After returning home from overseas, she met Michael and married in Cambridge. Betty and Michael moved to Duxbury where she raised her family and was blessed with many wonderful friends. She enjoyed Duxbury life to the fullest. Betty imparted her love of music, art, travel and sports to her children. She was an active member of many local clubs and organizations including the Duxbury Yacht Club, the Frostbite Society, Duxbury Garden Club, Duxbury Art Association, Duxbury Rural and Historical Society, Duxbury Senior Center, Jordan Hospital Club, and the Siasconset Casino.

Betty and Michael loved to sail and explored many of the coastal towns of New England together and with friends and family. Betty loved art and was a docent for many years at the Harvard Fogg and the Duxbury Art museums.

Betty is survived by her children, son F. Michael Dewire and wife Jackie Dewire of Duxbury, daughter Elizabeth Hartford and husband Jim Hartford of Duxbury, son Mark Dewire and wife Hilary Don of Baltimore, Md., son Peter Dewire and wife Andrea Dewire of Hingham and daughter Emily A. Dewire of Duxbury. Betty is also survived by her 12 grandchildren, Jocelyn, Alison, Hannah, Eliza, Jane, Luke, Peter, William, Madeline, Owen, Alexandra and Annabelle.

A celebration of Betty’s life will be held at Holy Family Church in Duxbury at 11 a.m. on Aug. 12, 2017, with a reception to follow at the Mattakeesett House, Duxbury. Donations in memory of Betty’s life may be made to Cranberry Area Hospice: (www.bidplymouth.org/cranberryhospice).